

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF: THE NUPENG AND PENGASSAN JOINT NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL EMERGENCY MEETING

HELD AT THE ROCK VIEW HOTEL ABUJA ON MARCH 2 2009.

NUPENG AND PENGASSAN HELD AN EMERGENCY JOINT NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (NEC) MEETING ON THE NIGER DELTA CRISIS AND STATE OF THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY AT ROCK VIEW HOTEL ABUJA ON 2ND MARCH 2009.

AT THE END OF THE MEETING DELIBERATION THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE REACHED:

1. INSECURITY IN THE NIGER DELTA

The joint NEC-In-Session condemned the incessant cases of kidnapping, including children, women and the aged, which at times result to fatalities.

The Joint NEC-In-Session noted the complicity of some powerful politicians, top Government officials and security agencies in aiding and abetting this menace.

The Joint NEC-In-Session also noted the Federal Government's lackadaisical approach and response to the inadequate security in the Niger Delta and hereby demands as follows:

- That Government should set machinery in motion to effect the immediate release of all our members still in captivity.
- The separation of genuine agitations in the area from bare faced criminality and take appropriate action to stem this ugly trend.

- Provision of adequate security including aerial surveillance, good intelligence network and take proactive measures to stem the tide of violence in the region.
- Massive and rapid infrastructure and human capital development of the Niger Delta region through Federal Government direct intervention.
- Since engagement of the various stakeholders to ensure a peaceful environment to guarantee security.

2. DEREGULATION OF THE DOWNSTREAM OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY

The Joint NEC –In – Session unequivocally condemned and rejected the recent Government hasty pronouncement on the total deregulation and planned privatization of the nation’s Refineries, NGC and PPMC through unilateral and executive fiat.

The joint NEC-In-Session thereby demands as follows:

- The urgent passage of the Petroleum Industry Bill through due legislative process.
- Full implementation of the OGIC report as approved by the Federal Executive Council.

3. CONCESSION OF THE 21 OIL STORAGE TERMINALS TO A FOREIGN COMPANY

The Joint-NEC-Session frowned at the concession of the inspection of the 21 storage and loading terminals from DPR to a single private firm (COLBALT).

The Joint-NEC-In-Session therefore calls a review of the said concession.

4. BELBOP/CONOIL

The Joint NEC-In-Session expressed dismay at the reluctance of Belbop/Conoil Management to resolve the pending issues with the in-house unions. It was further agreed that the Belbop/conoil Management should intensify efforts to conclude all pending labour issues in the interest of peace.

The Joint NEC-In-Session demands the full implementation of existing agreements signed between Belbop/Conoil management and the unions.

The Joint NEC –In-Session agreed that the Federal Government be put on notice that at the end of 21 days Ultimatum beginning from Tuesday 3rd March 2009, all Oil and Gas Workers are to commence a three day comprehensive and symbolic Warning Strike Action.

PENGASSAN

Babatunde Ogun
President

Bayo Olowoshile
General Secretary

NUPENG

Peter Akpatosom Mni
President

Elijah Okougbo
General Secretary